

Appendix

7. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in [Claim 3 or 4] Claim 4, wherein said picture element characteristic determining unit determines picture elements to be moiré picture elements if the distribution in said range of smaller differences is dominant and if said distribution is polarized positively or negatively.

10. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in [any of Claims 1 through 9] Claim 9, wherein said image data retouching unit obtains a retouching value for the luminance value of said image data, and adds the retouching value to the tone values of element colors to retouch the image data.

11. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in [any of Claims 1 through 10] Claim 10, wherein:

in retouching the image data of the picture elements, an image data attribute specifying unit for acquiring specification of the attribute of image data to be handled is caused to execute the function thereof, and

said image data retouching unit is caused to execute the function thereof on the basis of the image data having the attribute acquired by said image data attribute specifying unit.

12. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in [any of Claims 11] Claim 11, wherein said image data attribute specifying unit specifies luminance signals as the attribute when high-speed image data retouching is desired and specifies element color signals constituting an image as the attribute when high-quality image data retouching is desired.